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U.S. Patent and Trademark Office  
Commissioner of Patents  
- Examiner Wilbert L. Starks, Jr. ; Art Unit 2121 -  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, U.S.A.

**Patent-Application Serial-Number: 09/704,803**  
**Request for more time for the Payment of Issue Fee**

*Dear Examiner Wilbert L. Starks,*

in your Letter from 27. Oct. 2003 you write

*"The issue fee ... must be paid within three months from the mailing date of this notice or this application shall be regarded as abandoned. This statutory period cannot be extended. See 35 U.S.C. 151."*

In my download of Title 35 U.S.C. (Patent Law) § 151 says:

*"If it appears that applicant is entitled to a patent under the law, a written notice of allowance of the application shall be given or mailed to the applicant. The notice shall specify a sum, constituting the issue fee or a portion thereof, which shall be paid within three months thereafter.*

*Upon payment of this sum the patent shall issue, but if payment is not timely made, the application shall be regarded as abandoned.*

*Any remaining balance of the issue fee shall be paid within three months from the sending of a notice thereof and, if not paid, the patent shall lapse at the termination of this three-month period. In calculating the amount of a remaining balance, charges for a page or less may be disregarded.*

*If any payment required by this section is not timely made, but is submitted with the fee for delayed payment and the delay in payment is shown to have been unavoidable, it may be accepted by the Commissioner as though no abandonment or lapse had ever occurred."*

I want to pay the issue fee, but I'm now living from social welfare, which is not enough to pay my rent. [Telephone Company has disconnected my cable phone, too, so I can't send or receive facsimile or connect the Internet (to send you this letter, I have to drive by rail 17 km to H idelberg, where a Company sends facsimiles for 1 € per pag ). Above phone number is a "free-&-easy" cell phone by E-Plus without fixed charge, which I cannot use to

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call someone during the week, because the communication cost is very expensive because I have no fixed charge.]

To prove my financial problems, I annex the rescript from the social welfare office.

Surely I'll have to pay the maintenance fee until 2<sup>nd</sup> May 2004, too.  
But this can be extended by half a year for an extra payment.

Please give me a little more time for the payment of the issue fee.  
I'll do all to earn the money I need for the issue fee and the delayed payment fee and the maintenance fee.

When I made my application, the issue fee was 605 \$ and the maintenance fee was 415 \$ (for 3½~7½ years) and the late payment fee was 65 \$.

In your letter I see that the issue fee increased from 605 \$ to 665 \$ since my application.  
How much are maintenance fee and late payment fee in April'04 and in October'04 ?

About 3 years ago, I had to prepay 130 \$ for a "petition to correct the filing date".  
It had success.

So the 130 \$ should be remaining. Is that right ?  
Are now 665 \$ missing or  $665 \$ - 130 \$ = 535 \$$  ?

*With friendly greetings*



Gerd Krämer

**Annexed:** rescript from the social welfare office

***per Facsimile to: 001-703-746-4000***